

City of Newton

Holiday Season (December) Safety Tips:

Each year the holiday season presents a unique set of challenges for those of us who work to protect and maintain safety in malls, restaurants and public gathering spaces. The increased movement of people everywhere also increases the opportunity for crime and potentially dangerous situations. Thus, we try to inform and share relevant information so the people of Newton are better prepared as they head out to relax, shop and gather with friends and family. Below is a small list of shopping tips we hope you will find beneficial

- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Dress casually and comfortably.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Do not carry a purse or wallet, if possible.
- Always carry your Driver License or Identification Card along with necessary cash, checks and/or a credit card you expect to use.
- Even though you are rushed and thinking about a thousand things, stay alert to your surroundings.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.
- Keep cash in your front pocket.
- Notify the credit card issuer immediately if your credit card is lost, stolen or misused.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Be extra careful if you do carry a wallet or purse. They are the prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas, transportation terminals, bus stops, on buses and other rapid transit.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, "con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.

If you or your team needs further information or training tips, please feel free to contact ISI via the information below.

This alert provided by: Frank Wolpe, Chair, George Cullen, Member, Mayor's Crime Prevention Commission working with David Cullen, President, Intelligence Security International (ISI)